Voluntary Retirement Scheme

1718. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how many people have retired under voluntary retirement scheme in Central Public Sector Undertakings; and

(b) whether all of them been paid their dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) As per the available information 1,76,954 employees in the Central Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) have opted for Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) till 31.3.1995. Government have not received any representation from any Central PSU employee about non-payment of VRS dues.

Weeding out Amrit of Samudra Manthan

1719. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report in the Hindustan Times of 18th June, 1995, captioned "weeding out amrit of samudra manthan",

(b) if so, whether as reported weeds with amrit like property have been found in sea bed; and

(c) what are the curative properties of the different weeds found in ocean bed; and

(d) the steps that have been and are being taken to popularise the curative effect of these weeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the weeds have shown significant biological activity with medical properties.

(c) A medical weed (alga) from West Coast has shown antiviral activity and a new compound showing efficacy against Encephlo myco cardiatis virus (EMCV) in animal models has been identified. Two others have shown potent anti-diabetic effect in rat model and an active compound has also been isolated and its blood sugar lowering effect has been confirmed in animal models. There are several other organisms (sponges, corals, echinodermata) which have been identified to have potent hepato protective property (that protect liver) some are effective against blood pressure (Hypotensive) and showing Central Nervous Systems depressant action. A coral effective against amoebiasis in animal models also has been identified.

(d) Under the National Programme for identification of Bioactive substances, laboratory trials are now going on, on these materials for testing their effectiveness for ultimate use as drugs.

Proposal to set up Medical Colleges

1720. PROF. RAM BAKHSH SINGH VARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of medical colleges at present in the country together with State-wise details thereof;

(b) whether the number of these medical colleges is adequate in proportion to the growing population of the country;

(c) if not, whether Government are contemplating to open Medical Colleges during the year 1995-96;

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal to open any medical college in the Farrukhabad district of Uttar Pradesh; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) There are 146 medical colleges functioning in the country. A statement indicating State-wise medical colleges is annexed. (*See* below).

(b) Taking into account the availability of registered medical practitioners including Indian Systems of Medicine the doctor-population ratio is 1:950 which compares favourably with a number of developing and other middle grouped countries of the world.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Statement

Number of Medical Colleges in the Country-Statewise

Name of the State/U.T.	Medical Colleges
Andhra Pradesh	10
Assam	3
Bihar	10
Goa	1
Gujarat	6
Haryana	1
Himachal Pradesh	1
Jammu and Kashmir	3
Karnataka	18
Kerala	5
Madhya Pradesh	6
Maharashtra	31
Manipur	1
Orissa	3
Punjab	5
Rajasthan	6
Tamil Nadu	14
Uttar Pradesh	9
West Bengal	7
Delhi	4
Pondicherry	1
Chandigarh	1
Total Medical Colleges:	146

NB-Four new medical colleges have been permitted to be set up, two in Government sector in Gujarat and two in private sector one each in Maharashtra and Kerala. Admissions in these colleges are likely to be made during the academic session 1995-96.

Blacklisting of NGOs

1721. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "VANI seeks probe into blacklisting of NGOs" which appeared in the Financial Express dated June 17, 1995 wherein it has been reported that 564 Non-Government Organisations have been blacklisted by the official donor agency 'CAPART'; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) CAPART have a system of pre-funding appraisal, close monitoring of projects through monitors, periodical returns, etc. to ensure that the funds allotted are properly utilised. Whenever adverse reports come to the notice of CAPART, appropriate action including blacklisting of voluntary organisations is taken. CAPART has reported that 359 voluntary organisations have been blacklisted by it mostly on grounds of mis-use of funds, false reporting, forging of documents, etc.